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WESTHOUGHTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year 1966.

Westhoughton Urban District Council

Public Health Committee

Chairman: Councillor J. Smith

Vice Chairman: Councillor H. Booth

Councillors:-

R. Hart

J. T. Willett

R. Greenhalgh

C. J. Thomas

Mrs. W. Kettle

Public Health Officers of the Authority

Medical Officer of Health:

Ellis Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

Wilson Scott Astall

R.S.H. Certificates
Public Health Inspector.
Meat and Other Foods and
Smoke Inspector.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

Walter F. Maling

R.S.H. Certificates
Public Health Inspector
and Meat and Other Foods.

Clerical Assistant:

Miss J. Aldred

Cleansing Foreman:

Albert Chadwick

Technical Assistant (Smoke Control):

Donald Ratcliffe

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present, for your information and consideration, the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District of Westhoughton, for the year, 1966.

STATISTICS

The estimated population of the district in 1966 was 17,350 a decrease of 70 on the figure ascertained for 1965.

During the year a total of 308 births were registered, of which 8 were stillborn, so that the Live Birth Rate for the year under review is 17.3 as against 17.0 the previous year, and the Still Birth Rate 26.0 as against 13.3 in 1965.

Ten infants failed to survive to their first birthday, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 33.3 for the year, compared with two deaths and a rate of 6.7 in the previous year.

I am pleased to be able to report that there has been no maternal death. The Maternal Mortality Rate, therefore, remains at nil.

The number of deaths, from all causes, was 258, giving a Crude Death Rate of 14.9 and an adjusted rate of 15.9.

HEALTH SERVICES

The Lancashire County Council, through its Divisional Health Scheme, 1947, has continued to provide the personal health services in the district, details of which will be found in Section B of the Report, together with certain essential information in regard to other services.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

During the year the sanitary circumstances in the district have been kept under close supervision. Over four thousand visits were made to a wide variety of premises by the Public Health Inspectors. These visits included five hundred and sixty three inspections at food premises. Good progress was made in inspecting offices and shops under the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. By the end of the year 91% of registered premises had received a general inspection.

The Westhoughton (No. 3) Smoke Control Order relating to 238 houses at Wingates was confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in June, 1966 and will come into operation on the 1st October, 1967. In September the Council appointed a Smoke Control Technical Assistant so that a continuous programme of domestic smoke control could be planned and put into execution. This Officer received special training shortly after appointment in relation to smoke control work and the installation of solid-fuel appliances.

The District Inspector of Alkali etc. Works visited an offensive trades premises in the district, processing animal waste, and confirmed that careful attention had been paid to securing a well constructed fume treatment plant. He emphasised that no system of dealing with emissions to the air can be guaranteed to give complete freedom from malodour at all times but acceptable conditions for a considerable proportion of the time should now be achieved.

A "bonus scheme" in relation to refuse collection came into operation during January and it is pleasing to note that in spite of a reduced working week and longer haulage to a new tip site there has been a weekly collection of refuse throughout the year. After prolonged negotiations and extensive drainage works a new tip site at Garnett Fold, off St. Helens Road, Westhoughton came into operation during October. After very careful consideration and a demonstration of mechanical equipment the Council purchased in December a Michigan 35 A four wheel drive tractor shovel for dealing with refuse; providing cover and soil stripping. This has led to immense improvements in tip control and has provided safer and better working conditions for the men employed on refuse collection and disposal.

During October the Council resolved to form a Home Safety Committee to administer the Council's powers and functions under the Home Safety Act, 1961. It was agreed that in addition to members serving on Health Committee one Health Visitor and one fire service representative be invited to serve on the Committee.

Twenty four one bedroom all electric flats were built by the Council during the year though difficulties continue in relation to the provision of sites for new houses and sewage disposal. Twenty two unfit houses were demolished during the year and four unfit houses closed. Eighteen families were rehoused from unfit dwellings. The construction of fifty council dwellings are contemplated over the next two years and further housing requirements for the replacement of unfit dwellings are to receive consideration bearing in mind the difficulties faced by the Council.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There has been no serious outbreak of infectious disease during the year."

Details of the various diseases concerned, will be found in Section F of the report.

Yours faithfully,

E TAYLOR

Medical Officer of Health

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area of the district in acres	5,554
Population - 1961 census	16,254
Number of inhabited houses at end of year	6,095
Sum represented by a penny rate	£ 1,894

BIRTHS		Male	Female	Total
(a)	<u>Live Births</u> - Legitimate	150	138	188
	Illegitimate	8	4	12
		158	142	300

(b) <u>Still Births</u>	4	4	8
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(c) <u>Total Live and Still Births</u>	<u>162</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>308</u>
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(a)	Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	10
(b)	Infant Mortality Rates	
	Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	33.3.
	Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	33.3
	Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
(c)	Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	16.7
(d)	Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	16.7.
(e)	Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths).	42.2

DEATHS (cont'd)

(f) Maternal Mortality

Number of deaths Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate (deaths per 1,000 total
live and stillbirths) Nil

(g) Cancer 41

(h) Heart Disease 96

(i) Measles Nil

(j) Whooping Cough Nil

(k) Bronchitis 20

(l) Pneumonia 8

(m) Tuberculosis - Pulmonary 1

Non-Pulmonary Nil

(n) All causes:-

Male 146

Female 112

Total 258

Death Rate (per 1,000 population)

(a) Crude 14.9.

(b) Adjusted 15.9.

Birth and Death Rates, together with Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in England and Wales for the year 1966 with corresponding figures for Westhoughton.

Rates per 1,000 Home Population
England and Wales. Westhoughton.

BIRTHS:-

Live Births	17.7.	17.3.
Still Births	15.4 (a)	26.0. (a)

DEATHS:-

All Causes	11.7	14.9
Tuberculosis (all forms)	0.048	0.05
Respiratory	0.043	0.05
Non-Respiratory	0.005	Nil
Cancer (all forms)	2.25	2.36
Lungs and Bronchus	0.56	0.86
Other Cancer	1.69	1.50
Maternal Mortality	0.26 (a)	Nil (a)
Infant Mortality	19.0 (b)	33.3 (b)
Neo-natal Mortality	12.9 (b)	16.7 (b)

NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)

Typhoid Fever	0.002	Nil
Paratyphoid Fever	0.003	Nil
Meningococcal Infection	0.008	Nil
Scarlet Fever	0.442	0.5
Whooping Cough	0.402	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	0.028	0.05
Smallpox	0.001	Nil
Measles	7.149	3.85
Acute Pneumonia	0.167	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis:-		
Paralytic	Nil	Nil
Non-Paralytic	Nil	Nil
Acute Encephalitis:-		
Infective	0.002	Nil
Post Infectious	0.002	Nil
Dysentery	0.446	Nil
Food Poisoning	0.113	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	0.185	Nil
Tuberculosis		
Respiratory	0.257	0.05
Meninges and C.N.S.	0.002	Nil
Other	0.045	Nil
Anthrax	Nil	Nil

(a) Per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births

(b) Per 1,000 Live Births

The following is a statement showing comparative statistics for the year 1961 - 1966.

	Live Births	Deaths (all causes)	Stillbirths	Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality						
						Total			Neo-natal			
						No. of regis- tered deaths	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of regis- tered deaths	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of regis- tered deaths	Rate per 1,000 live births	
No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of regis- tered deaths	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of regis- tered deaths	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of regis- tered deaths	Rate per 1,000 live births	
Year 1966	300	17.3	258	14.9	8	26.0.	Nil	Nil	10	33.3	5	16.7
Year 1965:	297	17.0	226	13.0	4	13.3	Nil	Nil	2	6.7	2	6.7
Year 1964	304	17.5	219	13.7	3	9.9	Nil	Nil	4	13.3	Nil	Nil
Year 1963	314	18.6	210	13.4	4	12.6	Nil	Nil	13	41.4	5	15.9
Year 1962	294	17.7	199	14.1	6	20.0	Nil	Nil	7	23.8	3	10.2
Year 1961	246	15.7	213	14.5	4	16.0	Nil	Nil	2	8.1	2	8.1
Average 5 years 1961 - 1965	291	17.3	209	13.7	4.0	14.3	Nil	Nil	5.0	18.6	2.0	8.2

The following table gives the number of deaths
from the various causes, during the year - 1966

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	1	-	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	13	2	15
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	13	6	19
Leukaemia aleukaemia	1	-	1
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	13	19	32
Coronary disease, angina	31	12	43
Hypertension with heart disease	4	3	7
Other heart disease	19	27	46
Other circulatory disease	3	9	12
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	4	4	8
Bronchitis	14	6	20
Other diseases of respiratory system	4	1	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	3	-	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	11	20
Motor Vehicle accidents	5	2	7
All other accidents	1	2	3
Suicide	3	-	3
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
Total	146	112	258

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

No material change

SECTION B

General Provision of Health Services
for the area

Divisional Medical Officer

Ellis Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
No. 11 Divisional Health Office,
Lancashire County Council,
Leigh Road,
LEIGH, Lancashire

Telephone: Leigh 73227/8/9.

Ambulance Service

Control Centre

Telephone: Swinton 4343.

Care of children - Children Act, 1948.

Children's Committee, Lancs. C.C.

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Area 11

Area Children's Officer

-

Mr. G. Littlemore,
Williams Deacons Bank Chambers,
Market Street, Leigh.
Telephone: Leigh 72207.

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.

Telephone: Westhoughton 3139.

Clinics.

1. Antenatal and Postnatal

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.
Friday 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

2. Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough Immunisation and Smallpox Vaccination.

- (a) General Practitioner Service
- (b) Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.
Thursday 1.30 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

3. Child Welfare

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.
Tuesday and Thursday 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.
Cricket Pavillion, St. James Street, Westhoughton.
Wednesday 1.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.

4. Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

- (a) General Practitioner Service
- (b) Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.
Thursday 1.30 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

5. Ophthalmic (by appointment)
Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton. Wednesday - 9.00 a.m.
6. Chiropody (by appointment)
Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton. Monday and Wednesday 9.30 a.m.
7. Orthopaedic (by appointment)
School Health Clinic, Jones Street, Horwich or Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.
8. Relaxation and Exercises Class for Expectant Mothers
Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton. Tuesday 10.00 a.m - 11.30 a.m.
9. Cervical Cytology (For prevention and early diagnosis of the cervix)
Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton. Friday mornings (by appointment)
10. Hearing Testing (by appointment)
Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.
11. Dental (by appointment)
Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 10.00. a.m.
12. Day Nurseries
There are four nurseries in the division intended primarily for children from nine months to five years, whose mothers have to go out to work because of difficult social circumstances. Application forms may be obtained from the Matron of each of the nurseries, details of which are as follows: LEIGH - Stone House, St. Helens Road (Leigh 72858); Cavendish Street (Leigh 73586); ATHERTON - Gloucester Street (Atherton 248); FARNWORTH - Piggott Street (Farnworth 503).
13. Family Planning Clinics
Information regarding these Clinics is obtainable from the Divisional Health Office.
14. School Health and Minor Ailment
School Health Clinic, Market Street, Westhoughton. Monday 10.00 a.m.
15. Tuberculosis Dispensary and Chest Clinic
(a) The Infirmary, Leigh (Telephone: Leigh 73344)
(b) 33 Darley Street, Farnworth (Telephone: Farnworth 63)

16. Venercal Diseases

Confidential treatment is available at the following Clinics:-

- (a) Civic Centre, Bolton.
- (b) St. Luke's Clinic, Duke Street, Liverpool Road, Manchester, 3.
- (c) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.
- (d) Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.

Convalescence

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C. Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh. Sick bed nursing requisites and appliances are available free on loan from the Divisional Health Office or District Nurses - Mrs. Hulme, 6 Washacre, Westhoughton (Telephone: Westhoughton 3384); Mrs. Barge, 1 Clough Avenue, Westhoughton (Telephone: Westhoughton 3323).

Convalescent Treatment

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board.

Health Visiting Service

Health Visitors/School Nurses are employed full time by the Lancs. C.C. in the district.

Home Help Service

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C. Apply to the Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Home Nursing Service

District Nurses are employed full time in the District by the Lancs.C.C.

Hospitals

Royal Infirmary, Bolton.

Bolton District General Hospital, Farnworth.

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan; and other general and infectious disease hospitals situated in the area of the Regional Hospital Board.

Laboratory Facilities

Regional Hospital Laboratory facilities at Bolton and Wigan Infirmaries and the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

Maternity Homes

"Haslam", "Havercroft" and "Heaton Grange" Maternity Homes, Bolton. "Firs" Maternity Home, Leigh.

Mental Health

This service is a most important part of the new Health Service, and on application to the Divisional Health Office, information and help can be obtained in respect of the mentally sick and mentally subnormal.

Midwifery Service

Two full time domiciliary midwives are employed in the district by the Lancs. C.C. They are Mrs. J. A. Crabtree, 14 Allenby Grove, Westhoughton (Telephone: Westhoughton 2435) and Miss P. McGowan, 5 Clive Road, Westhoughton (Telephone: Westhoughton 3751). Mrs. M. J. Jervis, 22 Winslow Road, Westhoughton (Telephone: Westhoughton 2057) acts as a relief midwife in Westhoughton when this is necessary.

Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children

Provision for their care is made by the Lancs. C.C.

Welfare Services

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C. residential accommodation for aged or infirm persons is available at Atherleigh Grange and Hourigan House, Leigh and the Winifred Kettle House, Westhoughton and Wilfred Geese House, Farnworth.

Old People's Voluntary Welfare Committee

This body, consisting of representatives of all local voluntary organisations interested in the care and welfare of the aged, works in close association with the statutory services. Amongst the many services it organises and provides, are visiting, chiropody and meals on wheels. The Hon. Secretary is Mrs. P. Sutton, 26 Hunts Bank, Westhoughton.

X-Ray Facilities

Available at the Bolton and Wigan Infirmaries. Special facilities for chest X-Ray at the Hospital Board's Dispensaries and Chest Clinics.

SECTION C

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply

Bolton Corporation supply Westhoughton with water which is satisfactory in regard to quality and quantity. There are several sources of supply, but the larger quantity comes from the Lake District. All water is treated before passing into supply.

During the year a total number of 673 samples of raw water were submitted by Bolton to bacteriological examination and partial chemical analysis in their statutory area of supply. In addition 1,641 samples of filtered and treated water received bacteriological examination and partial chemical analysis and 18 full chemical analysis. The results showed that the filtered and treated water was of excellent quality. All water is treated before passing into supply.

Tests of the water show there is no significant plumbo-solvent action. No special action was required to be taken in respect of any form of contamination. Water was supplied directly from the public mains to serve the total population of 17,350 persons. No houses are supplied by stand pipes.

During the year 503 yards of new water mains were completed and 366 yards of existing mains renewed.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

This is largely on the combined system. There is one main sewage disposal plant at Rogers Farm and three subsidiary plants at Dicconson Lane; Dog Holes Farm and Marsh Brook. Difficulties in relation to both main drainage and sewage disposal are apparent and are receiving priority consideration by the Council with a view to dealing with known defects in the existing sewerage system and providing for future estimated development in the district.

Closet Accommodation

In nearly all cases accommodation consists of fresh water closets. A few pail closets are in use however, where main drainage is not available and certain outlying farms use privy middens. It is anticipated these will be replaced by water closets as the district develops.

Numbers and types of closet accommodation existing at the end of 1966 are shown overleaf, the figures for the end of 1965 being shown in comparison:-

Closet Accommodation (cont'd)

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>
Number of privy middens	20	20
Number of closets attached to these middens	24	24
Number of pail closets	42	42
Number of dry ashpits	-	-
Number of moveable ashbins	6882	6842
Number of trough closets	-	-
Number of waste water closets	11	12
Number of fresh water closets	6668	6628

Conversions during 1966:-

Number of privy closets to fresh W.C.'s	-
Number of privy closets to pails	-
Number of waste water closets to fresh water closets	1
Number of premises at which moveable ashbins were substituted for fixed receptacles	-
Trough closets to washdown pedestals	-
Number of pail closets to fresh W.C.'s	-

Public Cleansing

Refuse collection and disposal is carried out by the Local Authority under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector. Eighteen men and four vehicles are employed emptying weekly about 6882 bins; collecting waste paper for salvage from shops and also other trade refuse. Miscellaneous domestic refuse such as old furniture is also removed on request and arrangements are usually made for a special collection in such cases. A bonus scheme and staggered holidays has enabled a weekly collection of refuse to be made throughout the year. Three fore and aft tipping vehicles and a side loading vehicle are in use.

Controlled tipping was completed on the Warcock Hill Site during October and the new site at Garnett Fold, off St. Helens Road came into use. Towards the end of the year a rubber tyred four wheel drive loading shovel was purchased for refuse control work and one man is now employed on the tip using this machine. A high standard of controlled tipping has been achieved.

A total of 240 dustbins were issued during the year under the dustbin replacement scheme, which becomes a charge on the General Rate fund. Bins are now supplied with rubber lids. A number of paper sacks are used at flats and outlying premises.

Street cleansing including litter collection is carried out under the supervision of the Engineer and Surveyor

Salvage

The collection of waste paper and tins was as follows:-

	<u>Waste paper</u>	<u>Loose tins</u>	<u>Income</u>
1966	111 tons 16 cwts 1 qr.	19 tons 3 cwts 2 qrs.	£921
1965	88 tons	17 tons 14 cwts	£723

Tins have continued to be removed from the tip in the normal process of controlled tipping.

<u>Public Health Inspections</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>
Premises visited	1,654	2,170
Number of visits:-	4,111	4,190
Housing and nuisances	1,761	2,239
Factories	70	95
Infectious diseases	10	25
Food poisoning	-	5
Rodent control	7	4
Offensive trade	34	66
Schools	7	12
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963	158	161
Shops (Employment of Young Persons)	458	480
Slaughterhouses	248	244
Food premises	563	578
Clean Air	720	130
Miscellaneous	135	151
Noise	40	-
Defects or nuisances:-		
Number discovered	344	1,520
Number abated	1,196	1,044
No. of Notices served:-		
Informal	238	229
Statutory	7	14

There was a considerable increase of inspections carried out under the Clean Air Act, 1956. As usual general Public Health inspections; Housing and Food Hygiene formed an important percentage of inspections undertaken. Six hundred and fifty six requests for attention to a wide range of matters coming within the province of Public Health were recorded in the Office during the year and received prompt attention. An increase in the number of complaints relating to noise was evidence of the increasing desire of the Public for quieter living conditions. The Department was able to advise and help in relation to noise from factories and in one case noise from an electric sewing machine in domestic property was considerably reduced by mounting the machine on rubber pads.

Outwork

There were eleven outworkers in the district. Nine were employed packing Xmas Crackers and two employed on garment manufacture.

Shops

There were 458 inspections of shops carried out in relation to hours of employment of young persons under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950. Individual contraventions were reported to Lancashire County Council for action.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

General inspections for the purpose of securing compliance with all the requirements of the Act have now been carried out at 91% of registered premises. There were one hundred and eleven registered premises at the end of the year. Applications for registration are in most cases received because of the initiative taken by inspectors in the course of their work under the Act.

Standards in office premises are found to be reasonably good but it has been necessary to draw occupiers attention to improved standards of lighting.

A wide variety of contraventions were found and remedied during the year. No special problems have arisen and it is felt that within the limitations of staff time available progress has been good.

One accident was reported during the year and related to a trainee butcher who cut the finger of his left hand with a knife while boning out meat. The accident was not serious and required no special investigation.

Detailed information on the implementation of this Act provided by the Ministry has been a considerable aid in achieving a satisfactory uniformity in enforcement.

A summary of cases where compliance has been requested and of work done is given below:-

Requirements of the Act relating to:-	No. of cases where compliance requested	No. of cases where work done
Sanitary conveniences	13	10
Washing facilities	7	2
Cleanliness	11	3
Overcrowding	-	1
Temperature	7	8
Ventilation	5	6
Lighting	7	6
Drinking water	-	1
Accommodation for clothing	2	1
Sitting facilities	1	3
Seats for sedentary workers	2	2

cont'd

Requirements of the Act relating to:-	No. of cases where compliance requested	No. of cases where work done
Eating facilities	1	-
Floors, passages, stairs	13	8
Thermometers	13	18
First Aid	18	13
Fencing of machinery	2	3
Abstract of the Act	13	7

Offensive Trades

Thirty four inspections of a fat melters premises were carried out. The premises are kept under constant review to minimise as far as practicable nuisance from odour.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the district.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

Disinfection

During the year infestations of insects were dealt with at sixteen premises. Three premises were treated against cockroach infestation using dieldrin powder or insecticidal lacquer. One earwig infestation; several ant infestations and infestations by flies and crickets received treatment.

Precautionary spraying of eighteen houses was carried out prior to re-housing the occupants under the Council's Clearance Programme.

Schools

The water supply to the schools in the area was found to be constant and sufficient. All schools now have modern type water closets and seven inspections were carried out during the year. Regular cleansing and decoration of the conveniences is carried out. Inspections of school meals facilities and kitchens were carried out during the year and advice given as necessary.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

There are no premises in the area where rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

Rodent Control

During 1966 the work of rodent control continued, the Cleansing Foreman carrying out treatment.

All rats and mice infestations are promptly dealt with, private dwellings being treated free of charge. Treatment of business premises is charged on a basis of men's time and materials used.

One hundred and ninety five premises were inspected and five hundred and forty visits made to property either for the purposes of survey or for dealing with infestations. One hundred and seventy seven rat infestations and eighteen mice infestations were found and treatment carried out. Forty three inspections of agricultural properties were undertaken in the course of the year. The treatment of the sewers using warfarin poison plus a bait preservative, was carried out as usual.

Moveable Dwellings

Little action was necessary in relation to moveable dwellings. Advice was given when required on the conditions normally imposed on sites licensed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. One site license was in operation during the year but no caravan was actually stationed on the site.

CLEAN AIR

Smoke Control

Thirty four observations of industrial chimneys were carried out during the year. Three new boilers were installed, one gas fired and two oil fired. Recommendations were made in relation to chimney heights. It is felt that pollution from industrial boiler plant in Westhoughton is at a minimum and over three quarters of smoke pollution will be from domestic chimneys.

The Council's No. 3 Smoke Control Order at Wingates was confirmed during the year by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and comes into operation in October, 1967 by which time approximately one thousand houses will be subject to Smoke Control. Fan assisted draught fires capable of burning all types of smokeless fuel will be installed in Council Houses in the area and where practicable tenants will be able to choose a gas fire as an alternative. Private householders in the area will also have a choice of a wide range of appliances.

The appointment of a Smoke Control Technical Assistant during the latter part of the year was evidence of the Council's intention to proceed at a steady pace with smoke control. On health grounds the case for smoke control is beyond dispute and on economic grounds the community as a whole can derive great benefit from clean air. Each type of fuel - solid fuel; gas, electricity and oil has its part to play in achieving a higher standard of heating in the home and a cleaner environment. Seven hundred twenty visits were made to premises in connection with this important aspect of Public Health work.

Measurement of Atmospheric pollution

The following table and graph show the amount of smoke and sulphur dioxide pollution in microgrammes per cubic metre of air, measured at the Library Street site, and represents principally the pollution produced within a half mile radius of the site. Again as in previous years pollution is highest during the months October to March when domestic fires are in general use.

The average yearly concentration of smoke pollution for 1966 was 136 microgrammes per cubic metre of air measured compared with 156 for 1965, representing a further reduction of approximately 13%. This continues the downward trend recorded each year since measurements were commenced at Westhoughton, and fits in with the downward trend recorded at sites throughout the country. A similar, though slightly less reduction in sulphur dioxide is also recorded. It is interesting to note that in the five year period that measurements have been carried out, there has been a reduction of 41% in smoke pollution and 28% in sulphur dioxide pollution at the recording site. Also very marked is the considerable reduction in the amount recorded in individual daily readings, the highest daily readings in smoke and sulphur dioxide pollution for 1966 being 683 and 660 microgrammes per cubic metre of air, respectively, compared with 1540 and 2101 for 1962. These high readings generally being associated with fog conditions.

Whilst this reduction in recorded atmospheric pollution is not necessarily the direct result of our own smoke control areas, and again, whilst too much importance should not be attached to the results from one recording site only, it does seem to indicate that the national clean air policy is having a significant effect in bringing about a reduction of atmospheric pollution, and is an encouragement to vigorously pursue our own clean air programme.

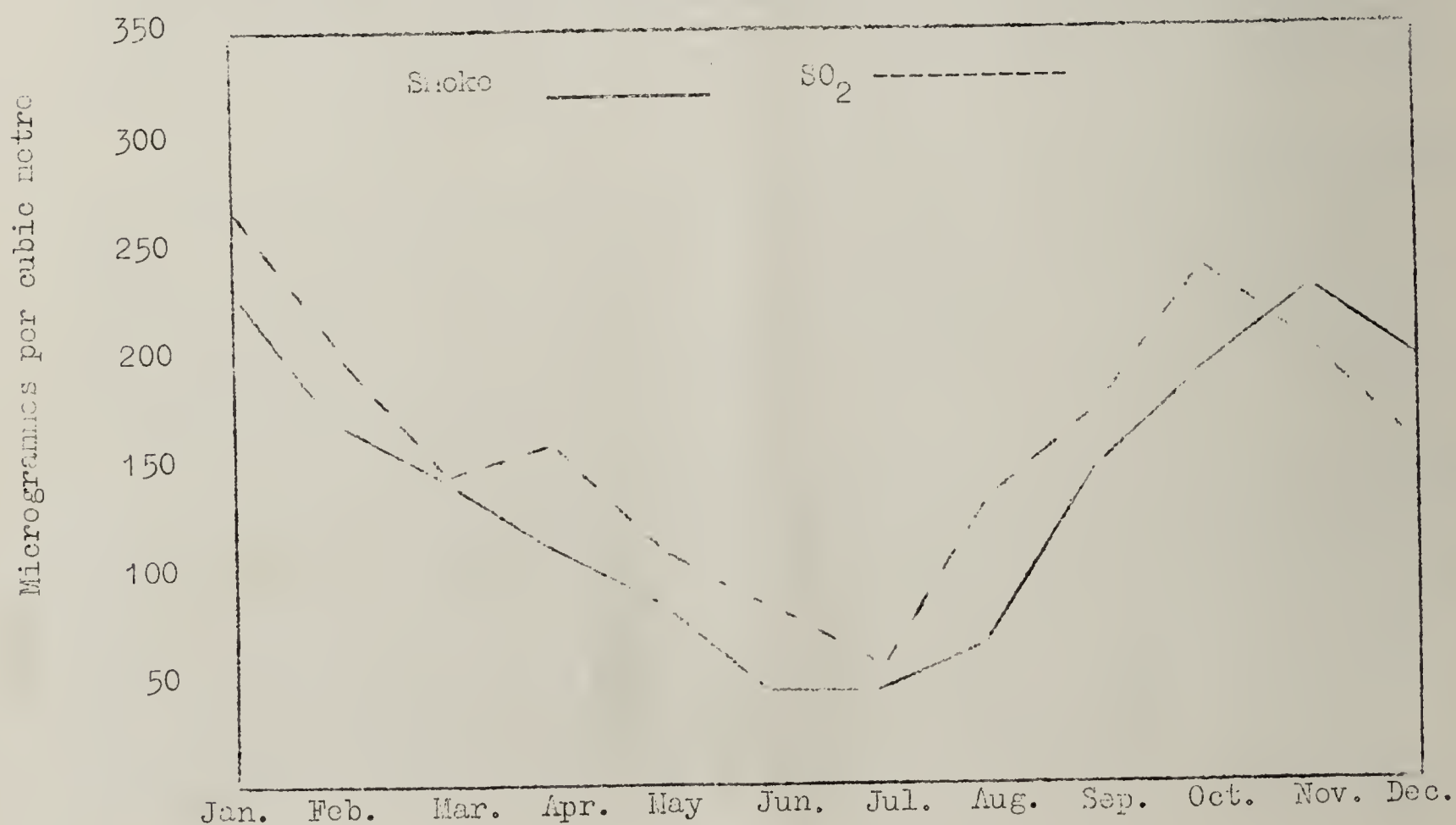
Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution for year 1966.

A = The daily average in microgrammes per cubic metre

HD = The highest daily reading for the month

MONTH	SMOKE		SULPHUR DIOXIDE		RATIO SMOKE/SO ₂
	A	HD	A	HD	
January	228	683	267	622	.85
February	169	529	206	622	.82
March	139	284	142	347	.98
April	110	382	156	493	.71
May	82	193	110	222	.75
June	46	117	85	153	.54
July	44	77	52	91	.85
August	63	119	79	161	.80
September	146	298	171	392	.85
October	185	399	187	370	.98
November	223	645	202	660	1.1
December	196	573	179	654	1.1

JANUARY - DECEMBER, 1966.



SECTION D

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Milk Supply

Dairy farmers are registered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Licences to sell special designated milk, namely, "Pasteurised", "Sterilised", "Ultra Heat Treated" and "Untreated" are issued by Lancashire County Council as Food and Drugs Authority for the area. Milk Distributors licences continue to be issued by the Council.

Action taken by the local authority in relation to samples taken in the district:-

a) Raw Milk

(i) Tuberculosis - Biological Test

No. of samples Nil.	No. negative Nil.	No. positive Nil.
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(ii) Brucellosis - Ring Test

No. of samples 128..	No. negative 71.	No. positive 57.
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Brucellosis - Culture Test

No. of samples 126.	No. negative 103.	No. positive 23.
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Brucellosis - Biological Test

No. of samples 20.	No. negative 16.	No. positive 4.
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(iii) Methylene Blue Reduction Test

No. of samples 35.	No. satisfactory 35.	No. unsatisfactory -
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b) "Heat Treated" milk - pasteurised

(i) Phosphatase Test

No. of samples -	No. satisfactory -	No. unsatisfactory -
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(ii) Methylene Blue Reduction Test

No. of samples -	No. satisfactory -	No. unsatisfactory -
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Three cattle infected with brucellosis were slaughtered. Notice to pasteurise milk from a herd of 53 cattle was served upon a milk producer in November, 1966 under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1959 because of infection of the herd with brucellosis. The Notice had not been withdrawn by the end of the year.

No notifications of tuberculous milk were forwarded to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Ice Cream

Seventy eight premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream, which is "pre-packed" with the exception of one shop selling a "Cold mix" product and a manufacturer's premises producing "Hot mix" ice-cream.

Seven samples of ice-cream were taken during the year and all were found to be in the provisional Grade 1.

One hundred inspections in relation to premises and vehicles were carried out during the year.

Shell Fish

No cases of illness due to consumption of shell fish were reported.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.

Two samples of liquid egg submitted to Alpha-Amylase test proved satisfactory. There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.

Food premises

No. of food premises, by type of business, in district at the end of year:-

Type of business	No.	A	B	C
General grocers and provision dealers	70	70	70	70
Greengrocers and fruiterers	12	12	12	12
Fishmongers	2	2	2	2
Meat Shops	17	17	17	17
Bakers and/or confectioners	17	17	17	17
Fried Fish Shops	11	11	11	11
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc.	7	7	7	7
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, snack bars, catering establishments.	42	42	42	42

NOTE: Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 in table above

- A - Premises fitted to comply with regulation 16 relating to washbasins.
- B - Premises to which regulation 19 relating to sinks applies.
- C - Premises fitted to comply with regulation 19 in relation to sinks for washing food or equipment.

A total of 563 visits were made to food premises during the year. 127 defects were found under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 and 134 defects were remedied during the year.

Food premises (cont'd)

Proceedings were taken under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 in relation to a catering establishment. Summons were issued in relation to nine contraventions:- defective kitchen table; defective and dirty working surface adjoining a sink; dirty walls and ceiling of sanitary conveniences; absence of ventilation to intervening space to conveniences; defective wash basin and absence of hot water supply to wash basin; dirty and defective floors, walls, ceiling and woodwork, defective sink and defective joints to a ceiling. Fines totalling £360 were imposed and £20 costs awarded.

The need for constant attention to the highest standards of cleanliness in food premises is paramount. Protection of food during preparation and sale is also essential. The proper temperature control of food such as meat, gravy, fish, cream etc., is of vital importance. Such foods if kept for any period of time should be cool, that is under 50° F or hot, that is over 145° F. The greatest protection against food poisoning is achieved by a high standard of personal cleanliness; clean premises and clean fresh food.

Meat

All carcasses and offal of animals slaughtered in the district are inspected prior to sale. No premises are licensed to slaughter horses. Two private slaughterhouses are now licensed. They ceased to operate however, at the end of the year as a consequence of the appointment by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the 1st January, 1967 when slaughterhouses in the district must comply fully with the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958 and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.

All animals slaughtered in the district are inspected and marked with the Local Authority meat stamp.

Carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during 1966 were as follows:-

Meat (cont'd)

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	181	Nil	Nil	725	Nil
Number inspected	181	Nil	Nil	725	Nil
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned	37	Nil	Nil	7	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	20.4%	Nil	Nil	0.9%	Nil
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number affected with Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Food Condemned

The following foodstuffs were condemned and surrendered:-

Tinned meat	980 tins	Tinned fish	20 tins
Tinned fruit	564 tins	Tinned soup	65 tins
Tinned vegetables	500 tins	Tinned milk	51 tins
Tinned rice pudding	66 tins	Pickling onions	336 lbs.
Bars of ice-cream	47		

Food Condemned (cont'd)

The total weight of food condemned excluding meat at Slaughterhouses was 2 tons 3 cwts. 327 lbs of meat were condemned at Slaughterhouses.

Condemned meat is removed by arrangement and disposed of locally in Concentrators for conversion to fertilizers and tinned food is buried, under supervision, at the Council's controlled tip.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The Lancashire County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority in the district. The County Medical Officer of Health has kindly supplied me with the following information:-

A total of 142 samples was obtained comprising 110 milks (10 of which were Channel Islands milk) and 32 others as follows:-

1 Self Raising Flour	2 Beef sausage
1 lard	3 Whisky
2 Butter	1 Brandy
1 Vinegar	1 Gin
1 Gravy Browning	1 Rum
1 White Pepper	1 Boric Ointment
3 Pork sausage	1 Compound Syrup of figs
1 Boric Acid	1 Biscuits
1 Glycerin	1 Fish, canned
1 Aspirin tablets	2 cheese
1 custard powder	1 Meat Pies
1 Junior aspirin tablets	1 Ice-cream
1 table jelly	

I give below details of those samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:-

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 0.6% extraneous water.	Dairy cautioned and further sample obtained.
Formal milk	Contained 7.4% extraneous water and was deficient 4.9% in solids-not-fat	Prosecution - Defendant fined £30 with £9.17s. costs.
Formal milk	Fat 2.85% Deficient 5% in fat, the sample also contained 0.09 International Unit Penicillin per ml.	Producer cautioned and Milk Marketing Board informed re penicillin.
Informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 1.6% extraneous water	Dairy cautioned and further sample obtained.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. (cont'd)

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Formal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 2.1% extraneous water	Producer cautioned and further sample obtained.
Formal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 0.3% extraneous water	Producer cautioned
Beef sausage	Contained 2.90 parts per million of sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor cautioned
Pork sausage	Contained 200 parts per million sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor cautioned
Pork sausages	Meat content 64% slightly low in meat content.	No action taken.
Pork sausage	Meat content only 62.5%. Contained 45 parts per million of sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor interviewed and cautioned

Poultry Inspection.

- (1) Number of poultry processing premises within the district1
- (11) Number of visits to these premises.....12
(since October, 1966)
- (111) Total number of birds processed during the year. 14,811
(since October, 1966)
- (1V) Types of birds processed Hens; broilers; capons.
- (V) Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption.....1%
- (VI) Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption ... 458 lbs.
- (VII) Comments on poultry processing and inspectionAll poultry processed were received on the premises ready slaughtered and plucked and in this way all carcasses showing signs of emaciation, discolouration; external tumours or visible abnormality had already been culled out. Carcasses showing evidence of disease at the time of evisceration were rejected immediately by the operator or in doubtful cases set aside for inspection by the Public Health Department. Various difficulties relating to plant layout and hygiene are evident and will it is hoped in co-operation with the owner be overcome.

SECTION E

Housing

Statistics

Forty nine houses were completed during the year by private builders. Twenty-four one bedroom all electric flats were also completed by the Council.

Conditions - General Observations

1,271 dwellings in Westhoughton are owned and maintained by the Council and this number represents about 20% of domestic properties in the district. About 87% of the privately owned dwellings are owner/occupied. The Council continue to give every encouragement for owners to improve their houses where the property has a satisfactory life of at least 15 years.

Sufficiency of Supply of Houses

There were 381 applicants on the Council's housing list and of these 98 householders and 59 lodgers desired houses and 199 householders and 25 lodgers desired bungalow accommodation.

80 householders requesting bungalows are Council House Tenants.

Fitness of Houses

One thousand and seventy three inspections were carried out during the year in relation to the fitness of houses. Defects were remedied at 174 houses as a result of the service of notices or other action by the Department. The number and type of defects found and remedied by the end of the year are shown below:-

Type of Defects at Dwellinghouses	Found	Remedied
Drains	87	100
Roofs	7	46
Chimneys	7	47
Eavesgutters	15	57
Rainwater pipes	11	17
Walls	16	76
Damp	44	127
Wallplaster	31	134
Ceiling plaster	16	117
Sinks	2	5
Sink Waste	5	11
Skirtings	2	-
Floors	15	76

Fitness of Houses (cont'd)

Type of Defects at Dwellinghouses	Found	Remedied
Stairs	1	9
Windows	44	105
Ventilation	-	51
Doors	7	54
Food storage	1	18
Food preparation	1	2
Food cooking	-	-
Lighting (natural)	-	45
Firegrates	6	17
Closets	23	53
Yards and Passages	3	29
Other defects	-	-
	-----	-----
Total	344	1196
	-----	-----

Forty four families need rehousing from dwellings represented as unfit and on which they are or shortly will be it is expected operative Orders for their demolition. 135 additional unfit houses are programmed to be dealt with in the period ending June, 1972. Two individual houses were represented to the Council during the year as unfit for human habitation.

Twenty two unfit houses were demolished and four houses closed for human habitation. Eighteen families were rehoused from unfit houses by the end of the year.

Twenty-one applications for Standard Improvement Grants to provide the five standard amenities - i.e. a fixed bath or shower; a wash-hand basin; a hot water supply; an internally situated water closet and satisfactory food storage facilities; were approved. Work was completed at twenty eight dwellings during the year. One dwelling was the subject of an application for a Discretionary Grant which was approved.

SECTION F

Prevelence of, and control over infectious and other diseases

Diphtheria

No case occurred in the district. The need to continue immunisation however, remains.

Dysentery

No case was notified.

Erysipelas

One case was notified.

Food Poisoning

This disease is notifiable under Section 26 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. No cases were notified during the year.

Measles

A total of 67 notifications were received.

Meningococcal Infection

No case was notified.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever

No case was notified.

Polionmyclitis

No case reported. The need to continue vaccination, however, remains.

Fuerperal Pyrexia

No case was notified.

Scarlet Fever

Ten cases were notified as against seven cases in 1965. Again this disease was mild in character and no complications were reported.

Smallpox

No case or contact reported.

Tuberculosis

One new case of respiratory tuberculosis was notified during the year.

Whooping Cough

No case was notified.

Acute Pneumonia

No case was notified.

Corrected cases of infectious disease (other than tuberculosis)
notified during the year 1966

	Cases notified										Total cases all ages
	Under 1	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	Age un- known	
Diphtheria	-										-
Dysentery	-										-
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	-										-
Erysipelas	1							1			-
Food Poisoning	-										-
Measles	67	4	14	26	23						-
Meningococcal Infection	-										-
Acute Pneumonia	-										-
Polioencephalitis	-										-
Poliomyelitis	-										-
Paratyphoid Fever	-										-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-										-
Scarlet Fever	10		6	4							-
Smallpox	-										-
Whooping Cough	-										-
Total	78	4	14	32	27	-	-	1	-	-	-

Cases
re-
notified
to
Hosp-
ital

Tuberculosis

New Cases and Mortality during 1966.

Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
5								
10								
15								
20								
25								
35								
45								
55								
65								
and over		1			2			
	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
Total	1		-		2		-	

Number of cases on Register at end of year:-

Respiratory Tuberculosis: 24

Non-respiratory Tuberculosis: 13

SECTION G

Factories Act, 1961.

Visits to factories during the year showed that standards of sanitary accommodation are generally satisfactory. Co-operation with firms was good and legal action to enforce the provisions of the Factories Act was found unnecessary. Cotton Spinning and Weaving; Steel Erecting; Metal Box Manufacture; Manufacturing Chemists; Paint; Raincoat and Plasterboard Manufacture are the chief industries in the area.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	1	Nil	Nil
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	72	69	4	Nil
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (excluding outworkers premises).	8	8	Nil	Nil
	84	78	4	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Defects (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H. M. Insp.(4)	By H. M. Insp.(5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)					
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	16	1	-	-	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act.(not including offences relating to out work	-	-	-	-	-
	16	1	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act - Three outworkers are employed in the district.

Nature of work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out workers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1) C. (2)	No. of defaults in send- ing lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices Served (6)	Prosecu- tions (7)
Packing Xmas Crackers	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Garment Manufacture	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

